

What is claimed is:

1. An image forming method comprising the steps of:

reading an image to obtain image data, and producing a password;

5 receiving designation of a destination printer, and designation of an addressee;

transmitting the image data and the password to the designated printer, and transmitting the password to the designated addressee by an E-mail; and

10 if the password transmitted by E-mail is entered into the printer and the password matches the password transmitted together with the image data, performing printing on the basis of the image data.

15 2. An image forming system comprising:

scanner that reads image and generates image data, said scanner receiving designation of a destination printer and designation of an addressee, and said scanner transmitting the read image data and the password to the designated printer and 20 transmitting the password to the designated addressee by an electronic mail; and

printer that prints on the basis of the image data in case that a password which is entered into the printer by a user matches with the password transmitted together with the image data.

3. An image communicating apparatus which is to be connected to an image data receiving device via a network, wherein said image communicating device comprises:

image data transmitter which transmits image data to said  
5 image data receiving device;

setting unit which sets a password specifying the image data to be transmitted; and

mail transmitter which transmits the set password by an E-mail.

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4. An image communicating apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the password is a password which is requested to be entered as a condition for starting image formation based on the image data received by the image data receiving device.

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5. An image communicating apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising:

receiving unit which receives completion notification which is transmitted in reply to entering of the password and image  
20 formation.

6. An image communicating device according to claim 3, wherein the password is a password which is requested to be entered as a condition for starting image data transmission by said image  
25 data transmitter.

7. An image communicating apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising address entering unit which enters a destination address of the E-mail.

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8. An image communicating apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising:

selector which selects an image data receiving device to which the image data are to be transmitted, from plural image data receiving devices which are connected to one another via the network; and

determining member which determines a destination of the E-mail by the mail transmitter, in accordance with a result of the selection by the selector.

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9. An image reading apparatus which is to be connected to an image data receiving device via a network, wherein said image reading device comprises:

reading unit which reads an original;

20 image data transmitter which transmits image data which are obtained by reading the original, to the image data receiving device;

setting unit which sets a password specifying the image data to be transmitted; and

25 mail transmitter which transmits the set password by an

E-mail.

10. An image forming system having an image communicating device which performs communication of image data, an image forming device which forms an image on a printing sheet based on the received image data, and an E-mail receiving device,  
5 wherein said image communicating device comprises:  
image data transmitter which transmits image data to said image forming device via a network;  
10 setting unit which sets a password specifying the image data to be transmitted; and  
mail transmitter which transmits the set password to an address of said E-mail receiving device by an E-mail, and wherein said image forming device comprises:  
15 receiver which receives the image data transmitted by said image communicating device;  
storage which stores the received image data;  
image forming unit which forms an image on a printing sheet based on the image data stored in said storage;  
20 receiving unit which receives a password;  
and controller which controls said image forming unit based on whether the set password is received or not.

25 11. An image communication method of communicating image data via

a network, comprising the steps of:

transmitting image data;

setting a password specifying the image data to be transmitted; and

5 transmitting the set password by an E-mail.

12. A computer-readable recording medium on which procedures of communicating image data via a network are recorded, wherein a program is recorded on the recording medium, the program causing

10 the computer to implement the steps of:

transmitting image data;

setting a password specifying the image data to be transmitted; and

transmitting the set password by an E-mail.